

## Hunting Invocations.

By R. N. BLAND.

In the October "Blackwood" there is an article by George Maxwell on the subject of a Malay deer-hunt in Perak. I think he has given some excellent translations of the "Elmu Pawang" as applied to the rusa or sambur deer, and written a most interesting account of the way in which the Pawang sets to work. It may interest him and others to see an invocation I got from a Pawang in the Negri Sembilan (Kuala Pilah) years ago. My "Elmu Pawang" is not nearly so ornate as George Maxwell's, but no doubt every village and district has its own ritual in these matters. There is a family likeness, however, in all of them. The Pawang who is an educated man from the Malay point of view, will produce a much more elaborate "elmu" than the Pawang of a jungle village. It is interesting to compare notes in these matters and therefore I send you this "elmu" for the S. B. R. A. S.—but I feel as if I were betraying a secret in doing so. These matters are highly confidential. My Pawang only admitted me to his "craft" under promise of secrecy and in payment of the customary fees in cloth, knife, coconuts, and "wang baru", and after following the deer on foot for many days through the Muar jungles.

### Elmu Pawang Buru Rusa.

*(Negri Sembilan.)*

Hei Che' Lanang, Che' Redup,  
Che' Bendang, Che' Merah,  
Mari-lah kita berburu  
Dalam kandang bhagian engkau  
Luar kandang bhagian aku  
Apa main kita jangan di-rosakkan

Aku tahu jahat-nya  
 Aku tahu baik-nya  
 Jahat pulang pada engkau  
 Baik pulang pada aku  
 Salah sa'ekor srigala Che' Langsat  
 Che' raia ini ia-lah melengkah bumi  
 Yang lari Che' Runsing  
 Kaki yang mengijar Che' Rimbun  
 Ekor melampat patah kaki  
 Menyenup patah pinggang  
 Menyelodok badan kau lampoh  
 Bukan-nya aku yang berburu  
 Perpatih yang berburu  
 Bukan-nya aku yang punya anjing  
 Pa sidi yang punya anjing  
 Bukan-nya aku yang berkuei  
 Nenek Batin Telang yang berkuei  
 Jangan engkau mungkirkan janji  
 Jikalau engkau mungkirkan janji  
 Drahka engkau pada Allah.  
 Hei Che' Lanang Che' Redup  
 Che' Bendang Che' Merah  
 Ambil bhagian engkau  
 Yang terbawa bhagian aku  
 Yang tinggal bhagian engkau.

### Badi

Hei Badi aku tahu asal engkau  
 Jadi deri-pada Chaga  
 Beranjak engkau deri sini  
 Pulang engkau ka asal jadi  
 Kropek nama-nya manchong  
 Kiamang nama-nya kiak  
 Che' Lanang orang gobala  
 Tergak Dato' nibong salah  
 Mari-lah kita membalakan anjing  
 Bunuhkan juga anjing aku  
 Sa'ekor sa hari bunukkan juga  
 Anjing aku.

*Translation.*

Ye (forest spirits that guard the red-deer)  
 Che' Lanang—the Twister  
 Che' Redup—the Dim One.  
 Che' Bendang (the open plain)  
 Che' Merah—the Red One  
 I summon you to hunt with me  
 What comes from the enclosed fields is your share  
 What comes from the outer forest shall be mine  
 Let nothing spoil our hunting  
 I know what to avoid  
 I know what to follow  
 May all the bad luck be your share  
 May all the good luck fall to me.

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Whether it be Srigala or Che' Langsat  
 Or the King of the Deer himself  
 Yea, he who crosses the world at one leap  
 Or Che' Runding who flashes hither and thither  
 May each one that leaps forth fall with broken legs  
 May each glider be broken across the back  
 May each one crushing through the bushes have broken  
     bones  
 It is not I who destroys you  
 It is the Lord Perpatih who hunts you  
 The dogs are not my dogs  
 They are the dogs of Pa' Sidi  
 It is not I who shouts on the dogs  
 It is the shout of Nenek Batin Pelang  
 Fail ye not in your compact  
 If ye fail in your compact ye are rebellious against Allah.  
     O Che' Langsat—the Twister  
     Che' Redup—the Dim One  
     Che' Bendang—the “open plain”  
     Che' Merah—the Red One  
     Take what is yours  
     That which is carried away is mine  
     That which remains is yours.

**Badi—Invocation.**

O Badi I know whence thou comest  
Thou comest from Chaga  
Get thee from hence  
Get thee to the place whence thou comest  
Che' Lanang the herdsman  
Remember the elder of the magic nibong  
Come hither and make atonement for our dogs  
Shouldst thou wish to slay my dogs  
Slay them, yes, one every day.